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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

DAVID W. PETTIS, JR.  
W. S. "TOM" VAN ROYEN

SUITE 700  
501 EAST KENNEDY BOULEVARD  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33602-5200

(813) 226-0440

PATENTS, TRADEMARK  
AND COPYRIGHTS

FACSIMILE: (813) 229-8073

November 7, 2001

Box **PATENT APPLICATION**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

VIA U.S. EXPRESS MAIL  
ET427593351US

jc825 U.S. PTO  
10/053142  
11/07/01

RE: United States Utility Patent Application  
Entitled: **APPARATUS FOR LOADING CARGO INTO VEHICLES**  
Inventor/Applicant: Smith, Robert L.  
Docket N<sup>o</sup>: V-3280-010

SIR:

Enclosed for filing please find the following:

1. original specification for a patent application;
2. ten (10) formal sheets of drawings, including Figs. 1 - 14;
3. a Declaration for a Patent Application (with Power of Attorney);
4. a Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status;
5. a Prior Art Statement and Information Disclosure Citation, together with attachments as stated on the Information Disclosure Citation;
6. our Check N<sup>o</sup> 6214 in the amount of \$370.00 to cover the filing fee of a Utility Patent Application for a Small Entity; and
7. a self-addressed, stamped, return postal card.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping and returning the enclosed postcard. Your cooperation and assistance in this matter are sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
**PETTIS & VAN ROYEN, P.A.**

*WS Van Royen*

William S. Van Royen

Enclosure(s): *Items 1 - 7 (As listed above)*

cc: Robert L. Smith (*w/enclosures*)

### CERTIFICATE OF U.S. EXPRESS MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence, together with enclosures 1 through 7 as identified above, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as U.S. Express Mail, U.S. Express Mail N<sup>o</sup> ET427593351US in an envelope addressed to: Box PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2001.

*Nona N. Gibbs*  
Nona N. Gibbs, Secretary to William S. Van Royen

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE:** Patent Application Serial N° \_\_\_\_\_  
**FILED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**FOR:** APPARATUS FOR LOADING CARGO INTO VEHICLES  
**INVENTORS:** ROBERT L. SMITH

**PRIOR ART STATEMENT**

**TO:** The Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**SIR:**

Applicant, through his undersigned attorney, hereby wishes to make of record the most pertinent prior art of which he is presently aware. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, submitted herewith is a completed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant.

While the attached list comprises the most pertinent prior art of which applicant and his attorneys are aware, applicant submits that none addresses the patentable features of the subject invention, and that the subject invention is fully patentable thereover. One photograph copy for each of the products noted on the **Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant** is enclosed for consideration by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,  
**PETTIS & VAN ROYEN, P.A.**  
501 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 700  
Tampa, Florida 33602-5200  
Telephone: (813) 226-0440 / Facsimile: (813) 229-8073

By: William S. Van Royen  
William S. Van Royen (Registration N° 32,446)  
Attorney for Applicant

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as U.S. Express Mail, Express Mail Label N° ET427593351/US, Postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: The Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2001.

Nona N. Gibbs  
Nona N. Gibbs, Secretary to William S. Van Royen

Encl: -Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant  
-Photocopies of all six (6) U.S. Patents as listed on Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant